



CLEAN.

CITIZENS LOBBY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION NOW, INC. / P.O. BOX 5, WEST CHESTER, OH 45069

No 0000017



100046

Ms. Sheila Sullivan
U.S. EPA 5HS-11
230 S. Dearborn St.
Chicago, Illinois 60604

July 30, 1991

Dear Ms. Sullivan:

Please accept this letter as a formal request for a 6 month extension of the comment period that is scheduled, for the Skinner Landfill Superfund Site, to commence in August when the US EPA makes the Feasibility Study available for public comment.

CLEAN is currently preparing an application for the Technical Assistance Grant (TAG). I understand, from Nancy Koop, TAG Coordinator, that it may take as much as five to seven months for the grant application to be processed. This is one of the grounds for CLEAN's request that the comment period be extended by six months. Because we are requesting a delay, conditional upon the time required for the TAG application to be processed, it would be to everyone's advantage if US EPA could be helpful in expediting the review process.

It is very clear, from the Health Risk Assessment of the Skinner Superfund Site, that US EPA lacked either the funding, or else the will, to include the pupils and staff of Union Elementary School in this study. The Ohio State Board of Health is conducting such a study at this time. It is imperative that this study run its course and that the results be included in the information that will be used to determine the Remedial Action. If our state Board of Health requires more time to properly investigate the health risks of the elementary school population, which is several hundred yards from the Skinner Landfill Superfund Site, then CLEAN requests that the comment period be extended beyond the requested six months..

In addition, because of a CLEAN member's recent inquiries, it has been brought to OEPA's attention that there are water wells in the vicinity which have not been tested for contamination. It is CLEAN's opinion that the environmental agencies should make sure they have incorporated all necessary data in the studies leading up to the Feasibility Study and Remedial Action.

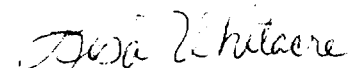
There has been very little opportunity for public involvement because the environmental protection agencies had very little knowledge of the site specifics. Now a huge amount of information is being made available for the US EPA, the Ohio EPA, and the residents of Union Township. The Remedial Investigations and the Health Assessment indicate that the majority of the contaminants are contained and do not pose a serious risk to the general public at this time. With the Feasibility Study due to be completed in August, and a September 30 deadline for the Record of Decision, CLEAN is not confident that sufficient time is being given to attend to the welfare of the public and the environment.

CLEAN wishes to participate in the clean up decision which will be rendered after the Feasibility Study is released for the public. It is our sincerest hope that the environmental regulatory agencies acknowledge the value of well-informed and involved citizenry. Certainly, this is the primary reason for the establishment of the TAG: to create well-informed citizens who have a say in the decision making of critical environmental issues affecting our community.

We are all concerned that this landfill be remedied in a thoroughly responsible manner with minimal risk to the public at large. While timeliness is important, correctness is a priority.

We look forward to your reply on whether an extension of the comment period will be favorably considered.

Sincerely yours,



Lisa Whitacre, Trustee
CLEAN, Inc. Board of Trustees

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cc: Mark Lehar, OEPA Site Manager
Rob Berger, OEPA Public Interest Center
Gina Weber, US EPA Public Interest Center
Representative Scott Nein,
Senator Barry Levey
Congressman John Boehner